

ST. ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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A N N U A L     R E P O R T  
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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

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ST.ASAPH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health  
for the year 1946

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1946, in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

I remain,  
Your obedient Servant,

A. H. HOLMES,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (Land and Inland Water) .. .. .	23,057 acres
Population at Census 1931 (which includes Meliden and part of Dyserth since transferred to Prestatyn Urban District. ..	7,873
Population, Registrar General's Estimate 1946 .. .. .	7,430
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books .. .. .	2,242
Rateable Value .. .. .	£43,826
Estimated product of a penny rate. .. ..	£180

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

WATER

Bodelwyddan, Rhuddlan and St.Asaph are supplied by the Rhyl Urban District Council's undertaking.

Most part of Dyserth parish is supplied by Prestatyn Urban District Council. These supplies have been satisfactory during 1946.

Bodfari This parish is supplied from works constructed by the Council but the supply is inadequate and of unsatisfactory quality.

Cwm is similarly supplied; the sources being at Aelwyd Ucha, Church Woods and above Fron. The supply is still unsatisfactory. During drought, a supplementary supply is obtainable from the water mains to the Birkenhead Corporation via the Holywell Rural District Council.

Bryniau, Dyserth. This high level area is supplied with water from the mains of the Holywell Rural District Council.

Waen. The water supply to this parish is from works constructed by the Council and discussion has proceeded during the year to remedy the unsatisfactory supply therefrom.

Tremeirchion, is similarly supplied from works constructed by the Council which have long been in an unsatisfactory state.

Rhualt is supplied by springs and streams in the neighbourhood and the supply is quite unsatisfactory.

The water supply to the last three parishes named has again been much under discussion during the year, but no new works were able to be started during 1946.

In these areas 85% of the population are supplied direct, 10% with stand pipes and the remainder have no piped supply.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No extensions were carried out during the year.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS

No action was found necessary during the year.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

In areas supplied by sewers only very few privies remain. In other parts 90% have privies with fixed receptacles and 10% with removable receptacles.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse is removed from all the parishes in the Rural District by the Council's own lorry.

#### SHOPS AND OFFICES

No action required during 1946.

#### CAMPING SITES

Following an outbreak of infectious disease there, complaint was made of the unsatisfactory sanitary condition prevailing at the Maesgwilym Camp. This camp is situated in a field on the outskirts of Rhyl and it was found that portable buildings erected there were being occupied all the year round. The site is only suitable for a summer camp, the water supply is satisfactory but facilities for the disposal of refuse are most unsatisfactory. The Council were taking action to remedy this at the year end.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action necessary during the year.

#### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

No public baths or pools exist in this district.

#### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

No action necessary during the year.

#### SCHOOLS

The schools are closed when necessary during epidemics to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

94 children between the ages of six months and 15 years were immunised during 1946.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

All animals are slaughtered at the Public Abbatoir, Rhyl, which is a municipally controlled centre for the area.



## TUBERCULOSIS

Persons suffering from this disease are cared for by the Welsh National Memorial Association in their sanatoria at Penyffordd and Llangwyfan or at the dispensary in Rhyl.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

The nearest clinic for the treatment of these diseases is at Chester Royal Infirmary. The treatment is free and travelling expenses are allowed to and from this district.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

During the year a clinic was started in St.Asaph at the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel in Gemig Street. This will be a boon to mothers in St.Asaph. No doubt Rhuddlan and Dyserth will continue to be served by the clinic at the Old Emmanuel School, Rhyl. Ante natal and post natal clinics are also provided at the St.Asaph Public Assistance Hospital for the benefit of patients attending there.

## SMALLPOX

In the event of an outbreak the Flintshire County Council accepts responsibility for the isolation and treatment of cases.

## DISINFECTION

When required for large articles such as bedding the Sanitary Inspector arranges for this work to be carried out at the Isolation Hospital, St.Asaph.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES

Free service for bacteriological examinations is obtainable at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Laboratory at Castle Bank, Conway.

## DISINFESTATION

No applications for personal disinfestation were received during the year.

## DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN

Stocks are held by the District Council for distribution to doctors when emergency supplies are required.

## HOUSING

Work was commenced on the following sites:- 18 houses on the Plas-yn-Roe Estate, St.Asaph, 24 houses at Thomas's Avenue, Dyserth, and 10 houses at Clos-y-Berllan, Rhuddlan. Sites were chosen and approved at Cwm and Bodfari, and negotiations were proceeding with the Education Department of the Flintshire County Council for the erection of houses on a site adjoining the St.Asaph Public Assistance Hospital.

## ISOLATION HOSPITAL, ST.ASAPH

During 1946 the following cases of infectious disease from the St.Asaph Rural District were removed to the above Hospital:-

5	cases of	erysipelas
2	"	puerperal fever
4	"	cerebrospinal fever
27	"	scarlet fever

## FOOD POISONING

No further outbreak occurred in Rhuddlan from the source referred to in 1945 report.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### (A) BIRTH RATE

The total number of births registered in the district during 1946 as given by the Registrar General was 115, of which 55 were males and 60 were females. This represents an increase of 11 over 1945 figures. Of that number 5 were illegitimate, three males and two females. The 115 births give a birth rate of 15.5 per 1000 of the resident population, as compared with 19.1 per 1000 for England and Wales. There were 3 stillbirths.

### (B) DEATH RATE

The total number of deaths registered in the district during 1946 as given by the Registrar General was 110, 68 of which were males and 42 females. This gives a death rate of 14.8 per 1000 of the resident population as compared with 11.5 per 1000 for England and Wales.

### (C) INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were five deaths of infants under 1 year of age, making a death rate of 43.5 per 1000 births as compared with 43 per 1000 for England and Wales.

### (D) INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 94 cases of infectious disease notified during 1946 consisting of:-

Scarlet Fever	31	Erysipelas	5
Whooping Cough	6	Puerperal Fever	3
Measles	25	Diphtheria	1
Pneumonia	17	Ophthalmia	
Cerebrospinal Fever	5	Neonatorum	1

### (E) ZYMOTIC MORTALITY

There was one death from pneumonia and two from influenza.

### (F) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

There were two deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, giving a mortality of 0.27 per 1000 of the estimated population.

### (G) TUBERCULOSIS (OTHER FORMS)

There was one death in this group.

### (H) OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

There were four deaths under this heading, equal to 0.54 per 1000 of the estimated population.

### (J) DEATH RATE FROM CANCER

15 deaths were ascribed to Cancer, the rate being 20 per 1000 of the estimated population.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1946

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### WATER SUPPLIES

In June a full time waterman was engaged and the services of all part-time men dispensed with. As a result several severe leakages in the mains were detected and repaired.

### CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING

A very considerable amount of work was done during the year in connection with the issue of Building Licences under Defence Regulations.

### TRADESMAN'S VAN

During the year a van was ordered for the use of the handyman.

### REQUISITIONED HOUSES

4 houses which had been occupied by the Military were requisitioned and tenanted.

## INSPECTIONS

Total number of inspections and visits made	984
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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of cases inquired into, including Scabies	25
Number of houses disinfected	25

## DWELLINGS

Number erected	48
Number made fit for habitation	1
Number of cases of overcrowding	49

## DRAINAGE etc.

Number laid or relaid	70
Number cleaned, trapped and ventilated	13
Number of new water closets	57
Number of repairs to water closets	60
Number of new privies and ashpits	--
Number of privies converted into W.C's.	--

## SCAVENGING

Number of Pail Closets emptied	1685
Number of Ashbins emptied	39674
Number of Ashpits emptied	536
Number of Loads of Refuse	654
Number of tons of Refuse	1260



REFUSE

Number of accumulations removed	14
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WATER

Number of new places supplied	8
Number of repairs, fittings etc.	155

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS

Number of new dairies erected	---
Number of cowsheds erected	1
Number of dairies repaired	---
Number of cowsheds repaired	10
Number of persons registered	155
Number of registered places in use and inspected	155

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Number dealt with	---
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ANIMALS

Number of cases causing nuisance	---
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LODGING HOUSES

Number registered	---
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CLERICAL WORK

Number of letters received	1500
Number of letters written	1530
Number of Preliminary Notices served	15
Number of Preliminary Notices complied with	15

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Number of abatement notices served	2
Number of abatement notices complied with	2
Number of prosecutions	---

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Number registered	63
Number of written notices	---
Number complied with	---

FOOD AND DRUGS

Details of food certified as unfit for human consumption

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Weight</u>	
		<u>Cwts</u>	<u>Lbs</u>
Pickles	23 jars		
Relish	3 bottles		



FOOD AND DRUGS (Contd.)

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Weight</u>	
		<u>Cwts</u>	<u>Lbs</u>
Oats			40
Canned Meat	19 tins		24
Oranges	---		43
Eggs	56 dozen		
Bacon			103
Canned Fish	27 tins		
Fresh Fish		2	24
Apples			28
Suet			6
Tea			5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Canned Milk	222 tins		
Beans	12 tins		8
Carrots		1	14
Biscuits			3
Pears	7 tins		3
Plums	39 tins		
Salad Cream	1 bottle		--
Dates	---		68
Peas	6 tins		
Sauce	14 bottles		
Lemons			2
Apricots	5 tins		--
Figs			26
Curry			5
Pineapple	2 tins		
Soup	1 tin		--
Tomatoes			60
Cheese			23
Coffee	1 tin		
Margarine			7
Rennet	1 bottle		
Grapes			3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bananas			$\frac{3}{4}$
Virol	3 bottles		
Jelly crystals	1 packet		

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Particulars of samples purchased under the above Act in the St. Asaph District during the year ended 31st December, 1946, as supplied by the Police Superintendent, Rhyl.

<u>Particulars of Sample</u>	<u>No. taken</u>	<u>Genuine</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>	<u>Cautioned</u>
Cooking Fat	5	5		
New Milk	25	22	2	1
Sponge Mixture	2	2	--	--
Pudding Mixture	1	1	--	--
Pearl Barley	1	1	--	--
Tomato Soup	1	1	--	--
Bread	1	1	--	--
Gravy Browning	1	1	--	--
Baking Powder	1	1	--	--
Salt	1	1	--	--
Flour	1	1	--	--

# RAINFALL in 1946

AT

YR ARDD, DENBIGH

	Total Depth Inches	Greatest fall in 24 hours Inches	Date	Number of days with .01 in. or more	.04 in. or more
January.....	3.44	.61	9	18	13
February.....	5.25	1.57	7	21	15
March.....	1.10	.31	21	10	8
April.....	.73	.28	25	12	4
May.....	2.78	.63	15	12	9
June.....	2.11	.46	9	18	15
July.....	1.41	.32	26	15	10
August.....	4.29	.72	27	22	16
September.....	3.01	1.00	4	18	10
October.....	.86	.38	2	9	6
November.....	3.74	.71	21	22	19
December.....	3.42	.42	22	24	17
Total...	32.14				

Average total depth for past 10 years - 29.96 inches  
Rain Gauge

Diameter of funnel - 5 inches  
Height of top above ground - 12 inches  
Height of ground above Sea Level - 195 feet

## RHYL'S RAINFALL - 10 YEARS AVERAGE

Average Rainfall for 10 years, in Inches, is as follows :-

1937	-	25.51	1942	-	22.90
1938	-	28.31	1943	-	26.14
1939	-	27.01	1944	-	26.02
1940	-	29.32	1945	-	19.66
1941	-	19.73	1946	-	29.30

Yearly Average for 10 years - 25.39